

THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO



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COUNCILMEMBER
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Councilmember Atkins City Staff to Host City of Villages Planning Forum

San Diego - Heard about the City of Villages concept touted by Mayor Murphy in his State of the City Address but not sure what it has to do with North Park? Read about the Strategic Framework Element and the Planned District Ordinance but still trying to figure out what they mean and how they fit in with the Greater North Park Community Plan? Want to have a say in any on-going discussions about possible density increases in Mid-City? Then Councilmember Toni Atkins invites you to join her and staff members from the City of San Diego's Planning Department as they host a Planning Forum and Workshop on Saturday, September 15th, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

"I've heard the concerns of North Park residents about the need to understand what the City of Villages is," said Councilmember Atkins. "I felt it important that the City hold a workshop to give North Park residents the opportunity to review the City of Villages concept and understand just what the Strategic Framework is so they can determine for themselves how North Park gives direction to its involvement in the process."

Many issues were raised and questions asked during a City presentation of proposed densities at the June meeting of the Greater North Park Planning Committee. As a result of this meeting, Councilmember Atkins decided to co-host a planning forum and workshop as a means to allow citizens to become better informed and more involved.

"Clearly, North Park residents have many questions about these issues, and they'll need to be answered before I'll feel comfortable supporting a map of proposed densities which may include North Park," said Atkins. "I hope that residents will join us on September 15th to have their questions answered and concerns addressed."

The forum and workshop will be broken into two sessions. The early session, which will run from 8:30 to 10:40 a.m., is informational only and is a perfect primer for residents and business owners of North Park who are interested in planning issues but may not be clear about terminology. The forum will provide attendees with a thorough review of planning concepts and terms.

The main session, which will run from 10:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., will contain two major elements: a presentation by City staff on the City of Villages concept and its role in the vision of San Diego's

future, followed by small group discussions about local planning preferences and North Park's possible place in the City of Villages.

Refreshments will be served before the early informational session, and lunch will be provided mid-way through the main session. At press time a location had not yet been decided on, however, for more information and to find out the location of the forum/workshop call Rosalia Hernandez at 619/533-5962 , George Biagi at 619/236-6633, or Tom Romstad at 619/533-5967.

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